UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

QOTD FILM INVESTMENT, LTD,

Plaintiff,

v.

ORDER - 1

MARY STARR, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. C16-0371RSL ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on "Plaintiff's Motion for Continued Stay of Case Pending Reinstatement." Dkt. # 132. In February 2018, defendant Brian Wilson and counterclaimant Judy Rushing moved for summary judgment on the ground that QOTD Film Investment, Ltd., lacked standing to pursue a claim of copyright infringement because it had been administratively dissolved. Under the United Kingdom Companies Act, section 1012(1), all of plaintiff's property and rights, including the copyright at issue in this litigation, were deemed ownerless goods as of that date and were automatically transferred to the Crown. Wilson and Rushing argued, and plaintiff did not dispute, that plaintiff cannot succeed on its infringement claim if it does not own the copyright. Plaintiff requested an opportunity to reinstate itself, at which point the company would be "deemed to have continued in existence as if it had not been dissolved or struck off the register." U.K. Companies Act § 1032(1).

The case was stayed for thirty days. Plaintiff failed to obtain reinstatement to the

register within those thirty days, and the United Kingdom Companies House records suggest that plaintiff was not diligent in pursuing timely reinstatement. Nevertheless, counsel has now provided evidence that QOTD Film Investment, Ltd., was reinstated as an active company on May 9, 2018. Plaintiff is now deemed to have been in existence as if it had not been dissolved, with full ownership in the copyright, and may pursue its claims.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the motion to continue the stay is DENIED as moot and the underlying motion for summary judgement for lack of standing is DENIED. The Clerk of Court is directed to renote the motions in limine (Dkt. # 129) on the Court's calendar for Friday, June 29, 2018. Plaintiff's response is due the Wednesday before the note date. Replies will be accepted. An amended case management order will be issued.

MMS Casnik

United States District Judge

Dated this 19th day of June, 2018.